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Lessons from La Crosse County By Katie Mulligan

for Criminal Justice Reform

La Crosse County frequently earns praise for the transformation of its criminal justice system and the decrease in its jail population. From a high of 297 people incarcerated in 2001-2002, the figure dropped to 100 in 2021, a decline of nearly two-thirds.

Dane County's Criminal Justice Council (CJC) convened a meeting last December to learn how that transformation came about. They hosted Judge Ramona Gonzalez, Associate County Administrator Jane Klekamp, and Tonya Von Tol, manager of Justice Support Services. The group described a 25-year process that changed community attitudes and the culture and organization of their criminal justice system.

We can learn a great deal from what happened in La Crosse, even if conditions in Dane County differ in important respects. In fact, the discussion revealed that we have advantages that should make future reforms easier.

In 1995, however, La Crosse faced a problem familiar to us: the county needed a new jail. Their consultant said that a 400-bed jail would be necessary by 2010, but the county board decided to build a smaller jail and rely on "smart alternatives" to incarceration. Those reforms did not materialize, however. "As soon as the jail opened, it was a full jail," Klekamp said.

Gonzalez remembered that "all the conversations were about money" during

that period and observed that "money can drive good decisions and bad." She was the junior member of a group of four judges who seized an opportunity to change the community conversation about incarceration.

The judges and county employees Klekamp and Von Tol had simple messages. "Punishment doesn't work," they said. "Are we putting people in jail because we are angry with them, or because we are trying to keep the community safe?" They zeroed in on the rationale for the Huber Center, arguing that if people were safe enough to be in the community during the day, they were safe enough to be in their homes at night.

In 2001, La Crosse County greatly expanded the use of electronic monitoring, and the jail population declined by about 50 people. In 2004-2005, the Huber Center closed, and the jail population went down more, to 196 by 2006. There was a further decline immediately before Covid-19 hit, and an additional decline during Covid restrictions. New reforms were instituted during Covid, and many remained.

The Community Justice Management Council (CJMC) is crucial to the continuing success of La Crosse County's reform efforts. Attendees share information, identify problems that lead to incarceration, and develop solutions. For example, many people were in the Huber

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Executive Committee

Rachel Kincade, President Saundra Brown, Vice President Cindy Lovell, Secretary Fawn Bilgere, Assistant Secretary Pat Watson, Treasurer Joan Duerst,

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Public Safety

Post-Release Prison Prevention Old Law Parole Conditions of Confinement

MOSES Operational Team Leads

Communications Team Margaret Irwin Fundraising Rachel Kincade Joan Duerst Member Engagement Karen Julesberg

MOSES Faith Leaders Caucus

Joan Duerst Marsha Baldwridge Patti La Cross Continued from page 1

Center because of convictions for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI). Accordingly, the county established an OWI Treatment Court in 2006. Heroin addiction was an exploding problem in later years. The CJMC held a heroin summit and initiated a task force that led to more services. These accomplishments and many others were possible because people with different perspectives on a problem gathered around a table and talked to one another.

Gonzalez told the CJC group that she hoped it would not take Dane County 25 years to accomplish what they had done in La Crosse County. We should not fear that it will. Judges led the reform effort in La Crosse County, because the sheriff at that time resisted changes and even opposed electronic monitoring. The community had to be persuaded that safety would not be sacrificed if more people were diverted from the jail. The extensive list of mental health programs and other services took two decades of effort.

We are starting from a better place. Dane County Executive Joe Parisi and Dane County Sheriff Kalvin Barrett participated in the CJC meeting and praised the work in La Crosse. Judge Hyland, who was also at the meeting, said he believed that he and other members

of the judiciary would have no problems with the kind of options that La Crosse offers. He added, however, that judges have no power to add programs and services.

Watching the video of the CJC meeting, I was reminded of a recent op-ed published by MOSES's Justice System Reform Initiative.

Here are a couple of excerpts from that op-ed: "The solution to this crisis requires more coordination and cooperation among the highly siloed parts of the criminal justice system." "A new shared vision is needed and must be backed up with resources sufficient to fix the jail, but also to provide housing, treatment, school counselors, employment, and other community needs that will help address the underlying issues."

Note: Here is the link to a video of the CJC meeting referred to in this article: <u>tinyurl.com/53hjkp3a</u>. We plan to publish an article later providing more details about the La Crosse County reforms, including the cost savings that resulted.

Spotlight on School Safety Issues | By Barbie Jackson

MOSES Workshop: Taking a Deeper Look at School Safety

In June, MOSES welcomed Erica Ramberg and Robin Lowney Lankton from Families for Justice, who presented findings of the organization's 2016-17 open records request and their analysis of the activities of the four School Resource

Officers (SROs) who had been stationed in the Madison high schools prior to their removal in 2022. A wide-ranging, facilitated discussion followed the presentation, as participants considered what they had heard and shared their various perspectives on the pros and cons of using SROs. This discussion was followed by two briefer reports: one given by MOSES member Barbie Jackson on current safety plans and practices in the district; and another given by Shel Gross, who has a background in mental health, about the challenges of significantly increasing mental health needs and the limited services available for students. The workshop was a stimulating learning and exploration opportunity that

For a more detailed discussion of the workshop, see this link. If you would like to engage with MOSES in ongoing discussions on this topic, please contact Barbie at barbie.g.jackson@gmail.com.

MOSES Call to Action: Oppose Guns in Schools

MOSES values the safety and well-being of all citizens, but especially that of our treasured children. In response to Assembly Speaker Robin Vos' suggestion to arm Wisconsin's teachers, MOSES issued a <u>Call to Action</u> to oppose any such action. This is particularly important as we learn that the Ohio governor recently signed into law a

measure that would permit school workers to be armed in certain circumstances, showing the potential for a disturbing trend.

MOSES declares that militarization of our schools by the possession of firearms by teachers or other school personnel poses a direct threat to the safety and well-being of our children in general, and of our children of color in particular, and thus would increase school-induced trauma for children. Please consider joining MOSES members in a letter-writing and call-in campaign to your state senator, state representative, and the governor to declare your opposition to any potential

Thank you for joining MOSES's effort to stop this idea in its tracks! ■

legislation that would permit arming school personnel.

Guidance is provided in the Call to Action.

left many questions open for further learning.

WISDOM's Transformational Justice Campaign TAD priority: Expand TAD, expand eligibility, allocate funds equitably By Ann Lacy

hanks in part to sustained advocacy by WISDOM, Wisconsin's Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program was established by 2005 Wisconsin Act 25 to provide competitive grants to counties and tribes for treatment and diversion efforts for "non-violent adult offenders, for whom substance abuse was a contributing factor in their criminal activity." (CJCC TAD Program Report 2020) As described in the state statutes, "The program is designed to promote public safety, reduce prison and jail populations, reduce prosecution and incarceration costs, reduce recidivism, and improve the welfare of participants' families by meeting the comprehensive needs of participants." (Wisconsin Statutes 165.95)

Seven counties, including Dane, Milwaukee, and Rock, were funded at the beginning of the first cycle in 2007; subsequent expansions have increased this number to 53 counties and three tribes at the close of 2021, the most recent five-year funding cycle. Increases in funding, primarily through the state budget, have raised the amount available annually to counties from an initial \$700,000 to the current \$7,188,900. TAD-funded programs include such problem-solving or treatment courts as Drug, Family Dependency, Mental Health, OWI, and Veterans, in addition to a variety of other diversion programs, both preand post-charge. As of 2021, TAD funded 57 treatment courts and 29 diversion programs.

The TAD program has bipartisan support because it diverts people from jail and prison and enhances public safety while saving taxpayers money. The most recent analysis, from 2020, shows a savings of \$4.17 for treatment courts and \$8.68 for diversion programs for every TAD dollar spent.

Leaders in WISDOM's Transformational Justice Campaign have identified TAD as a priority for 2022. WISDOM is asking the state Legislature to **expand TAD**, **expand eligibility**, **and allocate funds equitably**:

- 1. Expand TAD with a \$15 million annual increase in funding.
- Expand eligibility by changing the TAD statute to allow people who have a mental health issue — and not a cooccurring addiction issue — and people who were formerly convicted of a violent crime to be eligible for TAD-funded programs.
- Allocate funds equitably to ensure that expanded funding is targeted to the communities with the highest rates of incarceration.

In May, WISDOM's statewide TAD Work Group met with state Rep. Evan Goyke (Assembly District 18, Milwaukee), a longtime champion of criminal-legal system reform, to get his insight on the probable success of WISDOM's TAD goals. Rep. Goyke urged the group to work with organizations like NAMI and Disability Rights Wisconsin and with sheriffs, prosecutors, police chiefs, and CJCCs (Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils) in as many counties as possible, to advocate for more money for TAD. The new state budget cycle will begin in September; the key period for advocacy is November to January.

While expanding TAD programming eligibility to people convicted of a violent offense is likely to be an uphill battle in the current climate, Goyke held out some hope for the mental health eligibility expansion. In the last legislative session, he introduced a bill, AB 815, that proposed changing the language in the statute to make people who "have a substance use disorder or mental illness" eligible for TAD programming; he thinks this bill is likely to pass when it is reintroduced in the upcoming session. Finally, because the Legislature has appropriated money for new or expanded TAD programs, not for expanding capacity in current programs, targeting TAD money to the counties with the highest rate of incarceration will be a hard sell.

After a summer hiatus, the TAD Work Group resumed its monthly Zoom meetings on Aug. 8 at 5 p.m. (and on the second Monday of every month at 5 p.m.) to strategize about moving WISDOM's TAD goals from words to action. MOSES supporters active in the TAD Work Group include Ann Lacy (annwilsonlacy@gmail.com, 608-213-4469) and Karen Julesberg (kejulesb@wisc.ed, 608-271-1701). Please feel free to reach out to them to learn how you can get involved!

Graphic Designer Needed!

The MOSES Communications Team is looking to hire a designer on a contractual basis to provide graphic design services for MOSES' annual yearbook and five bimonthly 8-page newsletters, in both digital and print format. If you know someone who might be interested, please have them get in touch with Margaret Irwin, mbirwin@charter.net.

Returning Citizen: Rylee Jenich

By Margaret Irwin

ylee Jenich grew up imprisoned by drug use - first by others, and then by herself. Her fight to get free has been the dominant theme of her life, and with great effort on her part and help from others, she is succeeding!

Rylee was first exposed to alcohol and drugs while still in the womb. When she was 7, her father was sentenced to a federal work camp for selling cocaine, and, as Rylee puts it, her sense of innocence was shattered. Her parents had divorced earlier; now, with Rylee's father absent, her mother, an alcoholic, couldn't cope with managing three kids.

Rylee didn't get much support from the community, either. It was widely known that her father was incarcerated, and other parents didn't want their kids hanging out with the Jenich kids. This rejection was very hurtful to someone who had done no wrong herself.

When Rylee's dad returned home, her mom moved to Illinois with her boyfriend, leaving Rylee feeling abandoned. Her dad apparently

was afraid Rylee would follow in his footsteps, so his parenting was very strict. The sense that she couldn't please him, no matter how fire in her. She desperately wanted to hard she tried, was a new source of trauma, and Rylee rebelled.

She tried marijuana as a form of selfmedication and soon got in trouble

with the law. She was a runaway at age 14 when an adult "friend" from AA with whom she stayed introduced her to crack cocaine. She was addicted to it from then on. This so-called friend began selling her for sex, and she learned she could use her body to survive. He was the first of several adults to exploit her; others included a prison



guard who sexually assaulted her repeatedly, and a sugar daddy with whom she went to live when she was desperate.

The unfairness of this treatment lit a

get clean and begin a new life, but all

the AA meetings and drug treatment

programs had failed for her.

Rylee moved on to hard drugs and stole to support her habit. While she was in prison, her mother died of alcoholism. This was difficult for Rylee, although she felt somewhat prepared for her mom's death. But she was totally

unprepared some months later for her father's sudden death of a heart attack – a devastating event that shook her to her core. She had always turned to her dad as her rock. She felt unmoored and took more drugs as a way of killing herself. In a drug-induced blackout, she robbed a bank, which she thinks now was probably a cry for help.

Rylee was given a seven-year sentence for the robbery, and for the first three years she continued to use drugs. Although she had been diagnosed with poly-substance disorder, she was put in solitary confinement as punishment for drug use. This did not make sense to Rylee: Why was she being punished for a symptom of the disease?

The unfairness of this treatment lit a fire in her. She desperately wanted to get clean and begin a new life, but all the AA meetings and drug treatment programs had failed for her. Drugs still ruled her life. A competent therapist offered her the possibility of help at Wisconsin's inpatient Women's Resource Center, which deals with serious mental health issues. Rylee spent two years at WRC doing trauma therapy.

Also during this time, she began to come out as transgender. She read a great deal of radical queer literature. She realized she could no

> longer lie about who she was; she had to face her truth. It was scary to come out as transgender in prison, but she did it. She received the diagnosis of gender dysphoria, which meant she could receive state-mandated treatment.

> Things began to fall into place in Rylee's life; she felt she was a completely new person. She did everything she could to get better: meetings,

therapy, prayer, meditation, adoption of the Buddhist moral precepts as her way of life. She found it much easier to stay clean the last four years of her sentence, because she was no longer running from herself. She felt freer than she ever had. She was proud of herself for persevering. She loved who she was for the first time. Rylee now had a direction in life. She wanted to be a social worker and give back to help others.

Once she was released from prison, Rylee learned the hard way that she wasn't ready to launch out on her own. She had a relapse of PTSD and drug use after becoming an activist during the protests following the murder of George Floyd. But she was always honest with her probation officer about what was going on, and this understanding woman was willing in return to give her space to figure things out for herself.

Rylee now lives in a women's sober living house and works the Twelve Steps. She is again clean and is working on her associate's degree in human services. Her dream is to earn a master's in social work with a minor in political science. She sees herself working toward prison reform or abolition and helping people escape the prison of drugs, as she herself has done.

What Is the MOSES/DPP Restitution Match Fund, and How Can You Support It? By Ann Lacy

022 is the pilot year for a partnership between MOSES and the Dane County Deferred Prosecution Program (DPP), a unit of the District Attorney's Office. This voluntary program, formerly known as the "First Offenders Program," enables eligible individuals to divert out of the formal criminal legal process. Program participants sign a contract in which they agree to attend classes, engage in community service, secure needed psychiatric, substance abuse, domestic violence, vocational, or other counseling, and make restitution to victims.

During conversations in 2021 with members of the Diversions other do: Group of the MOSES Justice System Reform Initiative, DPP Director Melvin Juette identified assistance in paying the restitution required of DPP participants as an unmet need. Inability to pay often relatively small amounts of restitution results in the termination of some participants from the program.

Diversions Group members developed a proposal for a restitution match fund to help reduce the financial barriers, often exacerbated by racial

disparities, that can prevent program participants from satisfying the requirements in their deferred prosecution agreement contracts. The fund is modeled after JustDane's Bail Assistance Program and adapted for the specific needs of the DPP and its participants. As proposed, DPP program participants identified by program staff would be able to access matching grants of up to \$250-\$300 each to assist in paying their mandated restitution. The fund pilot proposal was approved by the MOSES Leadership Board at its November 2021 meeting, with \$1,000 allocated for the project in the 2022 MOSES budget and a projected pilot start date of February 2022.

To date, with the allocation from the MOSES budget plus some initial donations, the fund has been able to support restitution match requests averaging \$240 each for five program participants. Each of the five participants fulfilled all of the other requirements of their contracts and made a good faith effort to pay the full amount of restitution owed to their victims. All five have struggled with significant unemployment and underemployment issues. One participant has mental health challenges and has experienced homelessness, for example; another, a single parent with young children, has been especially affected by Covid-19. Receiving the restitution match funds has allowed each of the five to successfully fulfill their deferred prosecution agreement requirements and have their case dismissed.

The fund is temporarily depleted. Sister Fran Hoffman of the MOSES Fundraising Team successfully wrote a request for a \$5,000 grant for the Restitution Match Fund from First Congregational Church Foundation's Seeds of Hope, and MOSES member congregation First Unitarian Society has approved the Restitution Match Fund as one of their Outreach Offering recipients in the coming year. The more money in the fund, the more program participants we will be able to assist, and the more likely it is that the fund will not only continue beyond the pilot year but will be able to attract additional community partners.

Donations to MOSES for the DPP Restitution Match Fund, like other donations to MOSES, are tax-deductible. If you would

like to support this initiative, you can mail a check payable to MOSES, with "Restitution Match Fund" in the memo line, to MOSES, P.O. Box 7031, Madison, WI 53707. You can also donate through the MOSES website (https://mosesmadison.org/give/volunteer-donate/); please indicate that the donation is for the Restitution Match Fund in the "special instructions to the seller" box on the PayPal screen.

To learn more about the Deferred Prosecution Program, visit the DPP page on the Dane County District Attorney's website: tinyurl.com/44d3hdud. To learn more about the Restitution Match Fund, email moses.restitutionfund@gmail.com or connect with the 2022 MOSES fund administrators, Ann Lacy (annwilsonlacy@gmail.com, 608-213-4469), Kathy Luker, or Paul Saeman. ■

Upcoming Meetings

General Membership (Via Zoom, as of this edition)

- Sunday, Sept. 11, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 2, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 6, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Leadership Board (via Zoom)

• Saturday, Sept. 17, 9-11 a.m.

Task Forces (via Zoom)

- Justice System Reform Initiative (JSRI), Oct. 13 & Nov. 10, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- **Public Safety**, Sept. 15 & Oct. 20, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Racial Justice for All Children, Sept. 6, Oct. 4 & Nov. 8, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Your Monthly Contribution Sustains MOSES

By Ann Lacy and Pat Watson

he newsletter usually includes an article by a MOSES supporter explaining their personal reasons for choosing to financially support the work of MOSES with a monthly contribution. This feature, which includes a photo, illustrates reasons to make a regular donation to MOSES, and it is also a way for newsletter readers to get to know another supporter just a little better.

MOSES seeks monthly supporters because these regular contributions sustain our work. Like other not-for-profit organizations, MOSES strives to be financially self-sustaining. One piece of the MOSES financial picture is the payment of annual dues by our member congregations and organizations; another is the grants that we apply for and are often – but not always – awarded; still another is sponsorship donations from businesses, organizations, and congregations for events like our annual Transformation Celebration Gala.

While we value every kind of financial support we receive, donations from our individual supporters – people who understand and are involved in the work of MOSES – have a special place in our overall financial picture. Individual donations are truly the heart of grassroots organizing. A supporter's stated commitment to making a monthly donation is particularly helpful; knowing that we have a set amount of money coming in each month allows us to budget around it.

Please consider becoming a MOSES Monthly Supporter, or consider increasing your contribution if you are already giving monthly. To become a monthly supporter, download the form from the MOSES website (https://mosesmadison.org/give/support-moses/), fill it out, and return it with a voided check to MOSES, P.O. Box 7031, Madison, WI 53707.

Or, if you prefer, make your monthly donation through PayPal, accessed from the Give/Donate page on the MOSES website (https://mosesmadison.org/give/volunteer-donate/). Just check the "Make this a monthly donation" box on the initial PayPal screen. As part of the statewide WISDOM network, MOSES is able to share in WISDOM's 501(c)3 status; donations to MOSES are tax-deductible.

We understand that making a monthly contribution is not feasible for all MOSES supporters, and we gladly welcome financial contributions from supporters in any amount and at any time! Mail a check (MOSES, P.O. Box 7031, Madison, WI 53707), click the yellow "Donate" button on the Give/Donate page of the MOSES website, or drop some bills or coins in the donation jar once we start meeting in person again.

Please feel free to contact the 2022 MOSES Financial Team, Treasurer Pat Watson and Financial Secretary Ann Lacy, with any questions, to request a copy of the monthly supporter form, or to make a change to your current monthly contribution, at treasurer.moses.madison@gmail.com or 608-213-4469.

MOSES Gala Is Saturday, November 5!

A

fter two years of celebrating the Gala virtually, MOSES is excited to come together in person for our special 10th Anniversary. We'll be commemorating the December 2012 commitment event of our interfaith social justice organization.

This will be our fifth annual Fundraising Gala. It will take place on Saturday, Nov. 5. We hope you will be ready to celebrate as the doors of Goodman Community Center's Brassworks historic building, located at 214 Waubesa St., open at 5:30 p.m.!

A variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres will immediately be available as we greet one another and seat ourselves to enjoy good food and socialize. Carmella Glenn will again serve as emcee for the program, which will take place at 7 p.m. In addition to recognizing three remarkable honorees at our 2022 Transformation Celebration, we will be conferring a Founder's Award in connection with our 10th Anniversary commemoration.

Tickets are \$75 each, or \$65 each for two or more tickets purchased at the same time. Tickets will be available in September. ■

By Sister Fran Hoffmann



MOSES

Mr. Smith Goes to Prison: What My Year Behind Bars **Taught Me About America's Prison Crisis**

By Jeff Smith, St. Martin's Press, 2015, 260 pages Reviewed by Pam Gates

ormer presidential candidate Howard Dean recommends this book, saying that it "joins The New Jim Crow as essential reading on America's greatest failure: our prison system." The book has also won praise from Bryan Stevenson and Wes Moore, familiar names to MOSES members.

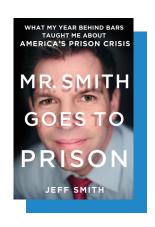
Jeff Smith, a young white politician from St. Louis, spent a year in a federal minimum-security prison in Kentucky for, as he explains to a fellow prisoner, "lying to the feds." He is candid about his life (ambitious and privileged) and about what he did to land in prison. He describes his prison experiences in detail and also analyzes how the system is serving nobody well, and in fact is harming our entire society.

Smith entered prison with tremendous advantages besides the brevity of his sentence. He had crossed racial barriers in his earlier life. Many of his friends growing up were Black. He majored in Black Studies in college, organized and played in adult basketball tourneys in Black neighborhoods, and mentored at a Boys and Girls Club. So when he entered a prison population dominated by Blacks, that barrier didn't feel daunting, though the realities

of living in the system added new

complexities.

Smith began writing this book while in prison, no small achievement in a facility short on amenities like writing paper, down time, and freedom from observation. He records his interactions with fellow prisoners, both positive and negative, with compassion, and through his observations makes a strong case for a complete overhaul of the system. After release he



completed the work – offering, as the jacket blurb says, "practical solutions to jailbreak the nation from the crushing grip of its own prisons and to jump-start the rehabilitation of the millions behind bars."

One reform Smith urges is a more extensive use of electronic monitoring, which would allow people serving sentences to live in their own homes, hopefully employed at a wage that would boost their families' welfare. As MOSES members have learned, electronic monitoring has serious disadvantages, such as monitor malfunction, but it does have potential when it goes well.

What about recidivism? People in prison are not being prepared for life on the outside, Smith says; in fact, coping skills they develop in prison, such as schooling themselves not to feel or expect anything, probably harm their chances of living successfully outside prison walls.

Sometimes prisoners deliberately derail their own release, realizing they're not ready. And there are, of course, the barriers that MOSES members know about: criminal background checks for employment, for housing, etc., and people's right to reject them based on those checks. Smith's chapter on recidivism is titled "You'll be back, Shitbird," which he often overheard correctional officers tell prisoners nearing release.

Smith emphasizes education as a way to help prepare prisoners for life on the outside. In the final month of his sentence he was able to tutor GED students, but staff support and monitoring were minimal. He realized how beneficial it would be to provide courses in business plans and management, to develop the entrepreneurial skills he observed in his fellow prisoners. Once released, he organized such a course, recruiting CEOs to mentor prisoners in entrepreneurship. Four prisoners graduated from the first class, at Texas's Cleveland Correctional Center.

Writing during Obama's second term, Smith speaks hopefully about bipartisan efforts to correct some of the wrongs our prison system perpetuates and exacerbates. But he warns that progress will be slow. He praises grassroots efforts to change the system, including JustLeadershipUSA (to which MOSES has a connection through our former organizer Mark Rice), but he also suggests that we listen to people living in prison and not expect change to happen fast. System employees, for example, are invested in keeping things as they are; it's their livelihood. And they ultimately control the nitty-gritty of what happens in the system.

This very readable book is full of good information. Smith is frank in his observations, respectful of those with whom he spent time in prison, and candid about how much easier things were for him than for those with longer sentences and without his other advantages: a partner who stayed with him, the support of his parents, a good education, and of course being white. He has thought about his time in the system and all those caught in its clutches and is doing what he can to change things. His direct observations are especially helpful to those of us who haven't been there, and his suggestions and encouragement can help us continue our efforts. Heartily recommended. ■

Titles in the MOSES Library as of August 2022

- A Country Called Prison: Mass Incarceration and the Making of a New Nation, by Mary D. Looman and John D. Carl
- Are Prisons Obsolete? by Angela Y. Davis
- At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance. A New History of the Civil Rights Movement, by Danielle L. McGuire
- Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the 21st Century, by Monique W. Morris
- *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, by Isabel Wilkerson We also have a study guide to this book.
- Diversity Explosion: How New Racial Demographics Are Remaking America, by William H. Frey
- Getting Wrecked: Women, Incarceration, and the American Opioid Crisis, by Kimberly Sue (2 copies)
- Halfway Home: Race, Punishment, and the Afterlife of Mass Incarceration, by Reuben Jonathan Miller



- How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America, by Clint Smith
- In Warm Blood (memoir), by Judith Gwinn Adrian and DarRen Morris
- Inside This Place, Not of It: Narratives from Women's Prisons, by Robin Levi and Ayelet Waldman
- *Invisible Man (novel)*, by Ralph Ellison
- Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption, by Bryan Stevenson (2 copies). We also have 2 copies of a study guide to this book.
- Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America, by James Forman, Jr.
- No Ashes in the Fire: Coming of Age Black and Free in America, by Darnell L. Moore
- Nobody: Casualties of America's War on the Vulnerable, from Ferguson to Flint and Beyond, by Marc Lamont Hill

- Policing the Black Man, by Angela J. Davis
- Solitary: Unbroken by Four Decades in Solitary Confinement (memoir), by Albert Woodfox
- Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, by Ibram X. Kendi (2 copies)
- The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma, by Bessel van der Kolk, M.D. (2 copies)
- The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America, by Richard Rothstein (2 copies)
- The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, by Michelle Alexander
- The Politics of Resentment: Rural Consciousness in Wisconsin and the Rise of Scott Walker, by Katherine J. Cramer
- The Short Tragic Life of Robert Peace, by Jeff Hobbs
- The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together, by Heather McGhee
- The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life, Freedom, and Justice, by Anthony Ray Hinton with Lara Love Hardin (3 copies)
- The Underground Railroad (novel), by Colson Whitehead
- *Unfair: The New Science of Criminal Injustice*, by Adam Benforado (2 copies)
- Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race, by Debby Irving
- White Fragility, by Robin DiAngelo
- White Rage, by Carol Anderson
- Why We're Polarized, by Ezra Klein
- Wisconsin Sentencing in the Tough-on-Crime Era, by Michael O'Hear

Note for potential borrowers: Our library will be moving sometime this summer to the new MOSES office at Lake Edge Lutheran Church. For the present, if you would like to borrow a book, return a book, or make a donation to the library, please contact Bonnie Magnuson (bonniemagnuson@gmail.com) to make arrangements.